

Southwest Louisiana Outreach Events Planned as Road Home Compliance Deadline Nears

Oct. 17, 2013

Baton Rouge - The state Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery Unit has scheduled more outreach events, including three in Southwest Louisiana, where Road Home recipients can meet with staff members to address their individual compliance issues, as well as learn more about the recently approved Action Plan Amendments 58, 59 and 60 and their possible benefits to some program participants.

Additionally, the Road Home office at 2021 Lakeshore Drive in New Orleans has extended hours until Nov. 25. The extended hours schedule is:

- **Mondays and Wednesdays:** 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.;
- **Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays:** 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; and
- **Saturday, Oct. 19, Nov. 2 and Nov. 16:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"We've had good response to our outreach events in the New Orleans area, and next week we are bringing the outreach to homeowners in the southwest region," said Pat Forbes, executive director of the Louisiana Office of Community Development. "As the compliance deadline nears, we want to encourage all homeowners who have received the letter about their compliance status to reach out to the Road Home staff so we can guide them through the compliance process."

On Aug. 26, the Road Home program mailed letters to homeowners who are currently not in compliance with their Road Home grant agreement or covenant, letting them know that they have until Monday, Nov. 25 to submit compliance documentation to avoid facing repayment of funds.

Option 1 recipients within the Road Home program chose to take a grant to rebuild or repair their storm-damaged home and agreed to reoccupy that home. Option 2 recipients chose to sell their damaged home back to the state then purchase and occupy another home within Louisiana. Road Home grantees have three years from the time of their closing to comply with their covenant or grant agreement. As that three-year period reaches its end, homeowners are asked to report back to the program whether they have fulfilled their obligation. If they have, homeowners are considered in compliance and their grant is closed; if they have not, they are required to repay their grant amount to the state.

Applicant files that are deemed non-compliant as of Monday, Nov. 25, including those that do not have the completed paperwork, will be put into grant recovery for collection of the Road Home grant funds.

Homeowners who are compliant, but simply have not submitted the required paperwork, are asked to complete the compliance questionnaire that accompanies the letter and send it back to the Road Home to have their file closed out.

If the homeowner is not yet compliant, he or she should contact the Road Home at 1-888-762-3252, extension 2, to speak with a member of the Road Home staff about their case or to schedule an appointment at one of the planned outreach

events or at the Lakeshore Drive office. While walk-ins will be welcomed, homeowners are strongly encouraged to call and make an appointment for the event they wish to attend, as those will be given priority.

Outreach Events currently scheduled are listed below. Check <https://www.road2la.org/HAPEvents.aspx> for more information about the outreach events or becoming compliant within the Road Home program.

Monday, Oct. 21

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Multi-Purpose Building
122 Recreation Center Ln.
Cameron, LA 70631

Tuesday, Oct. 22

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Calcasieu Parish Central Library
301 W. Claude St.
Lake Charles, LA 70605

Wednesday, Oct. 23

10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Vermilion Parish Library – Erath Branch
111 W. Edwards St.
Erath, LA 70533

Saturday, Oct. 26

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church
5234 N. Claiborne Ave.
New Orleans, La. 70117

Tuesday, Nov. 5

4 – 8 p.m.

Mary Queen of Vietnam Church
5069 Willowbrook Dr.
New Orleans, LA 70129

The Disaster Recovery Unit within the Office of Community Development is dedicated to helping Louisiana's citizens recover from hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike and Isaac. As the state's central point for hurricane recovery, the OCD-DRU manages the most extensive rebuilding effort in American history, working closely with local, state and federal partners to ensure that Louisiana recovers safer, stronger and smarter than before. this goal.

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